

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-6 have been cancelled.

7. (Withdrawn- currently amended) A method for the preparation of the entire HCMV pp28 ~~or of an immunogenic part thereof~~, which comprises expressing ~~, in whole or in part~~, the gene expression vector which codes for said entire HCMV pp28 as claimed in claim [[17]] 73.

8. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the 1.0 kb SmaI fragment from the HindIII R fragment, or fragments equivalent thereto from other HCMV strains, are used.

Claims 9-36 have been cancelled.

37. (Previously presented) An isolated 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28.

Claim 38 has been cancelled.

39. (Previously presented) An isolated 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28.

Claim 40 has been cancelled.

41. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said expression vector is bacteriophage vector.

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42. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector is a lambda phage vector.

43. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector encodes a fusion protein.

Claim 44 has been cancelled.

45. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

46. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

47. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV.

48. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said prokaryotic cell is a bacterium.

49. (Currently amended) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said prokaryotic cell is *E. [[Coli]] coli*.

50. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

51. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

52. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV.

Claims 53-54 have been cancelled.

55. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a fibroblast.

56. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a human fibroblast.

57. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a human cell.

58. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

59. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV.

60. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV.

Claim 61 has been cancelled.

62. (Previously presented) An isolated 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 strain Ad 169 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28.

63. (Previously presented) An isolated 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 strain Ad 169 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28.

64. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

65. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

66. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 74, wherein said prokaryotic expression vector comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

67. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

68. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

69. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 76, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

70. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 1.0 kB SmaI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

71. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB KpnI/SmaI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

72. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 83, wherein said DNA molecule comprises a 0.5 kB SmaI/KpnI fragment of HCMV strain Ad 169.

73. (Currently amended) A prokaryotic expression vector ~~comprising~~ encoding the entire HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said vector expresses said entire HCMV pp28 in prokaryotic cells.

74. (Currently amended) A prokaryotic expression vector ~~comprising~~ encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said vector expresses said antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 in prokaryotic cells.

75. (Currently amended) A prokaryotic cell which is transformed with a recombinant DNA molecule ~~comprising~~ encoding the entire HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said cell expresses said entire HCMV pp28.

76. (Currently amended) A prokaryotic cell which is transformed with a recombinant DNA molecule ~~comprising~~ encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said cell expresses said antigenic portion of HCMV pp28.

77. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 73, wherein said expression vector is a bacteriophage vector.

78. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 73, wherein said expression vector is a lambda phage vector.

79. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 73, wherein said expression vector encodes a fusion protein.

80. (Previously presented) The prokaryotic cell of claim 75, wherein said prokaryotic cell is a bacterium.

81. (Currently amended) The prokaryotic cell of claim 75, wherein said prokaryotic cell is *E. [[Coli]] coli*.

82. (Currently amended) A eukaryotic cell which is transformed with a recombinant DNA molecule ~~comprising~~ encoding the entire HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said cell expresses said entire HCMV pp28 in said cell.

83. (Currently amended) A eukaryotic cell which is transformed with a recombinant DNA molecule ~~comprising~~ encoding an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 that elicits antibodies that immunologically bind to pp28, wherein said cell expresses said antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 in said cell.

84. (Previously presented) The eukaryotic cell of claim 82, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a fibroblast.

85. (Currently amended) The ~~eukaryotic~~ eukaryotic cell of claim 82, wherein said fibroblast is a human fibroblast.

86. (Original) The eukaryotic cell of claim 82, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a human cell.

87. (New) A method for the preparation of an antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 which comprises expressing the expression vector which codes for said antigenic portion of HCMV pp28 as claimed in claim 74.

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